

# Workshop: Bayesian Statistics with JASP

---

Thomas J. Faulkenberry  
Tarleton State University

# Plan for today:

1. what is Bayesian inference?
2. Using JASP with examples:
  - $t$ -tests
  - correlation
  - estimating Bayes factors from summary statistics

All materials can be found at:

<http://github.com/tomfaulkenberry/bayesAngeloState>

# The problem of inference

For any type of statistical inference, we fix a **generative model**



# The problem of inference

For any type of statistical inference, we fix a **generative model**



(think sampling distributions)

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The frequentist accepts or rejects  $\mathcal{M}$  based on the likelihood of observing some data under a null hypothesis (i.e., the  $p$ -value)

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The frequentist accepts or rejects  $\mathcal{M}$  based on the likelihood of observing some data under a null hypothesis (i.e., the  $p$ -value)

- bases decision criterion on controlling long-run error rates (i.e.,  $\alpha$ )

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.





# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The Bayesian just directly asks: “What is the probability of this model  $\mathcal{M}$ , given that we’ve observed these data?”

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The Bayesian just directly asks: “What is the probability of this model  $\mathcal{M}$ , given that we’ve observed these data?”

- “posterior belief in model  $\mathcal{M}$ ”

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The Bayesian just directly asks: “What is the probability of this model  $\mathcal{M}$ , given that we’ve observed these data?”

- “posterior belief in model  $\mathcal{M}$ ”
- notation:  $p(\mathcal{M} \mid \text{data})$

# The problem of inference

Given **observed data**, we then try to **invert** this model.



The Bayesian just directly asks: “What is the probability of this model  $\mathcal{M}$ , given that we’ve observed these data?”

- “posterior belief in model  $\mathcal{M}$ ”
- notation:  $p(\mathcal{M} \mid \text{data})$
- no accept/reject decision

$$\underbrace{p(\mathcal{M} \mid \text{data})}_{\text{Posterior beliefs about model}}$$

# Bayes' Rule

$$\underbrace{p(\mathcal{M} \mid \text{data})}_{\text{Posterior beliefs about model}} = \underbrace{p(\mathcal{M})}_{\text{Prior beliefs about model}}$$

# Bayes' Rule

$$\underbrace{p(\mathcal{M} \mid \text{data})}_{\text{Posterior beliefs about model}} = \underbrace{p(\mathcal{M})}_{\text{Prior beliefs about model}} \times \underbrace{\frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M})}{p(\text{data})}}_{\text{predictive updating factor}}$$

# Bayes' Rule

Natural action in science is to *compare* two models  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

- Bayes' rule gives us a mathematical way to do this:

$$\frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1 \mid \text{data})}{p(\mathcal{M}_2 \mid \text{data})} =$$



# Bayes' Rule

Natural action in science is to *compare* two models  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

- Bayes' rule gives us a mathematical way to do this:

$$\frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1 \mid \text{data})}{p(\mathcal{M}_2 \mid \text{data})} = \frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1) \cdot \frac{p(\text{data}|\mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\text{data})}}{p(\mathcal{M}_2) \cdot \frac{p(\text{data}|\mathcal{M}_2)}{p(\text{data})}}$$

# Bayes' Rule

Natural action in science is to *compare* two models  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

- Bayes' rule gives us a mathematical way to do this:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1 \mid \text{data})}{p(\mathcal{M}_2 \mid \text{data})} &= \frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1) \cdot \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\text{data})}}{p(\mathcal{M}_2) \cdot \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_2)}{p(\text{data})}} \\ &= \frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1) \cdot p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\mathcal{M}_2) \cdot p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_2)}\end{aligned}$$

# Bayes' Rule

Natural action in science is to *compare* two models  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

- Bayes' rule gives us a mathematical way to do this:

$$\underbrace{\frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1 \mid \text{data})}{p(\mathcal{M}_2 \mid \text{data})}}_{\text{posterior beliefs about models}} = \underbrace{\frac{p(\mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\mathcal{M}_2)}}_{\text{prior beliefs about models}} \times \underbrace{\frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_2)}}_{\text{predictive updating factor}}$$

The predictive updating factor

$$B_{12} = \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_1)}{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{M}_2)}$$

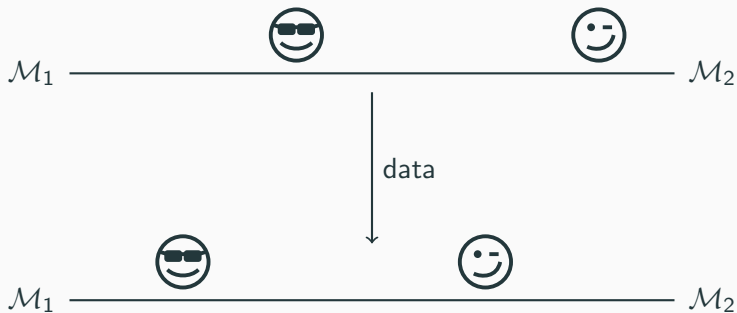
tells us how much better  $\mathcal{M}_1$  predicts our observed data than  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

This ratio is called the **Bayes factor**

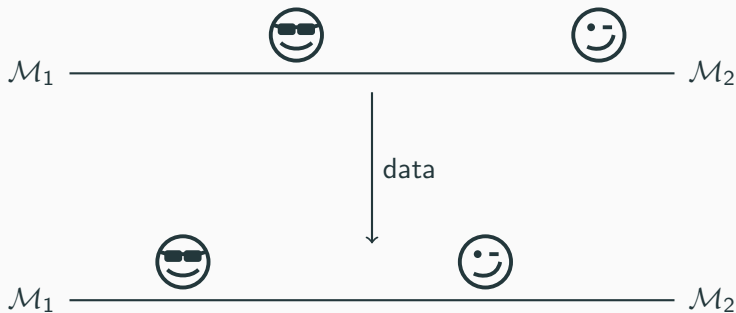
## Bayes factors



## Bayes factors



## Bayes factors



Although 😎 and 😊 have different prior beliefs, they both shift their belief **an equal amount toward  $\mathcal{M}_1$** .

## Interpreting Bayes factors

Example 1: suppose  $B_{12} = 10$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are 10 times more likely under  $\mathcal{M}_1$  than  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .



## Interpreting Bayes factors

**Example 1:** suppose  $B_{12} = 10$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are 10 times more likely under  $\mathcal{M}_1$  than  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

**Example 2:** suppose  $B_{12} = \frac{1}{10}$ . Then  $B_{21} = 10$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are 10 times more likely under  $\mathcal{M}_2$  than  $\mathcal{M}_1$ .

## Interpreting Bayes factors

**Example 1:** suppose  $B_{12} = 10$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are 10 times more likely under  $\mathcal{M}_1$  than  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

**Example 2:** suppose  $B_{12} = \frac{1}{10}$ . Then  $B_{21} = 10$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are 10 times more likely under  $\mathcal{M}_2$  than  $\mathcal{M}_1$ .

**Example 3:** suppose  $B_{12} = 1$ .

Interpretation: the observed data are equally likely under  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$ .

# Bayes factors

Jeffreys (1961) proposed the following thresholds for evidence:

Bayes factor	Evidence
1-3	anecdotal
3-10	moderate
10-30	strong
30-100	very strong
> 100	extreme

## Models $\leftrightarrow$ hypotheses

Full Bayesian inference requires specification of **generative models** for data. This is often difficult.

Also, we are typically trained to evaluate **hypotheses** about **effects**.

To reconcile the two, several teams (e.g., Rouder, Morey, Wagenmakers, et al.) have developed *default* Bayesian hypothesis tests. The key idea is that we define **models on effect size**.

Specifying models on effect size

# Models $\leftrightarrow$ hypotheses

Specifying models on effect size

- let  $\delta = \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$  (think Cohen's  $d$ , but at the population level)

# Models $\leftrightarrow$ hypotheses

Specifying models on effect size

- let  $\delta = \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$  (think Cohen's  $d$ , but at the population level)
- define competing models on  $\delta$ :

Specifying models on effect size

- let  $\delta = \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$  (think Cohen's  $d$ , but at the population level)
- define competing models on  $\delta$ :
  - $\mathcal{H}_0 : \delta = 0$  (the effect size is 0)



Specifying models on effect size

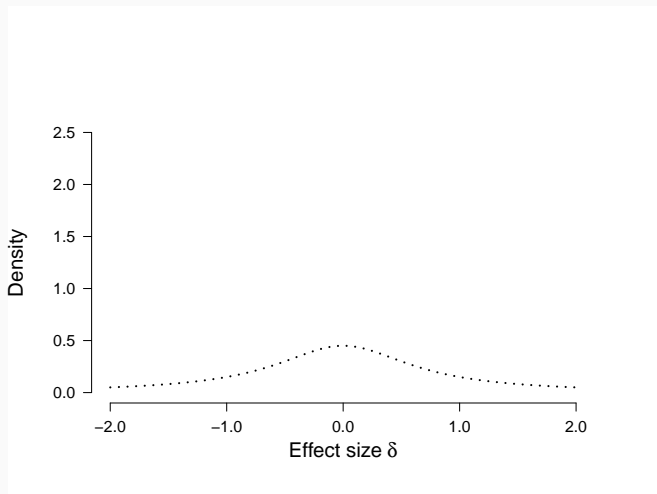
- let  $\delta = \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$  (think Cohen's  $d$ , but at the population level)
- define competing models on  $\delta$ :
  - $\mathcal{H}_0 : \delta = 0$  (the effect size is 0)
  - $\mathcal{H}_1 : \delta \neq 0$  (the effect size is not 0)

Specifying models on effect size

- let  $\delta = \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$  (think Cohen's  $d$ , but at the population level)
- define competing models on  $\delta$ :
  - $\mathcal{H}_0 : \delta = 0$  (the effect size is 0)
  - $\mathcal{H}_1 : \delta \neq 0$  (the effect size is not 0)
- use Bayes' rule to compute

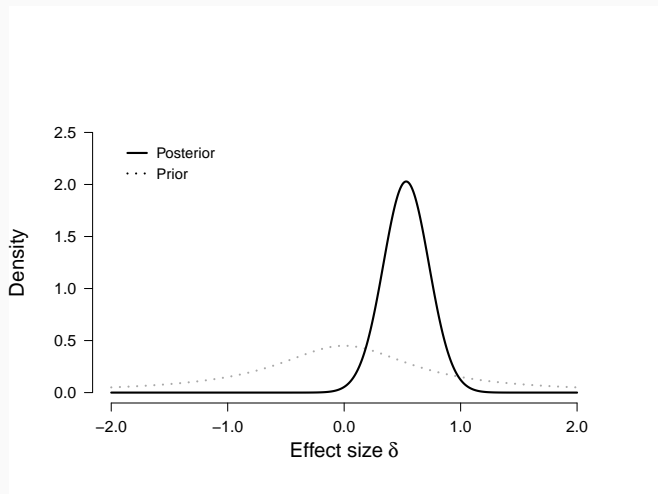
$$p(\mathcal{H}_1 \mid \text{data}) = p(\mathcal{H}_1) \times \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \mathcal{H}_1)}{p(\text{data})}$$

## Generic default Bayesian test



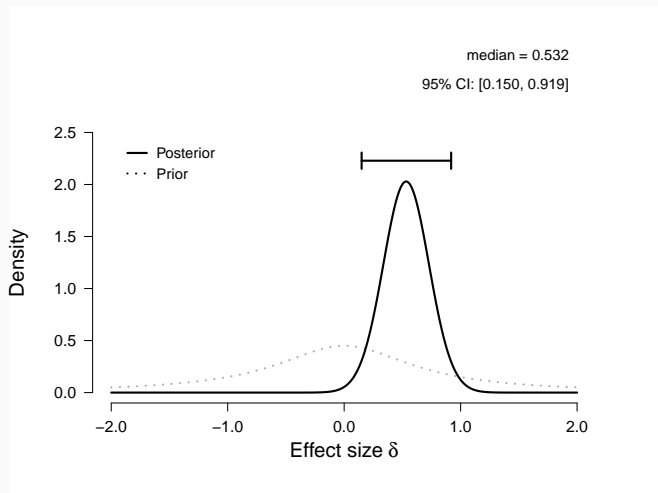
Start with **prior** belief about expected effect sizes  $\delta$ .

## Generic default Bayesian test



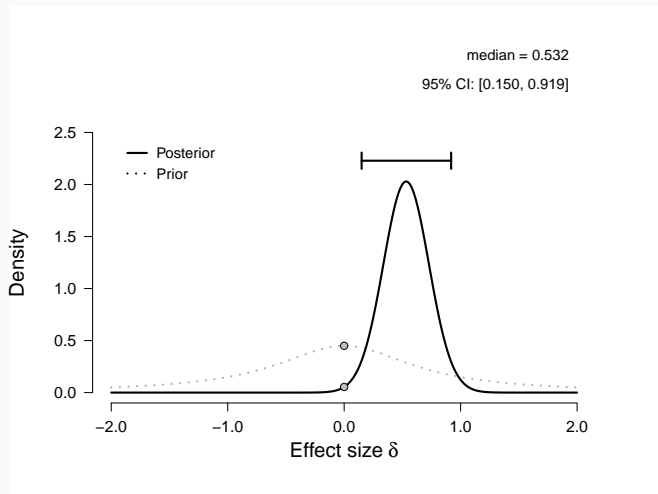
Observing data updates our prior to a **posterior**.

# Generic default Bayesian test



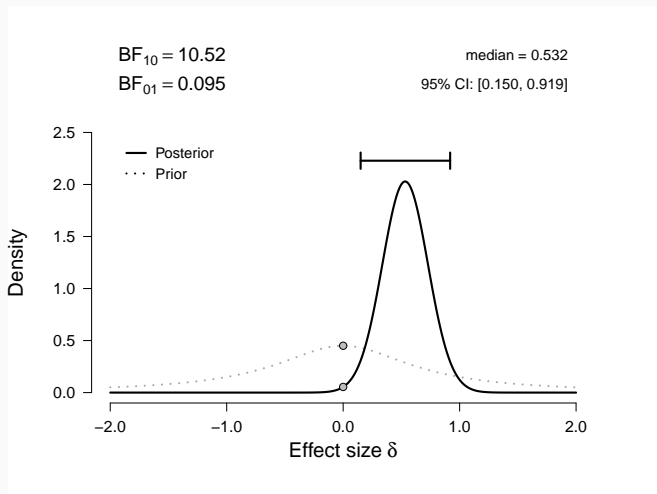
We can extract posterior **estimates** of  $\delta$

# Generic default Bayesian test



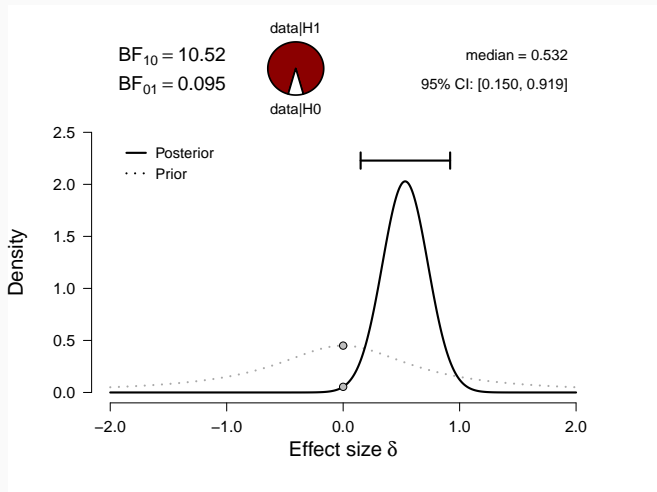
The Bayes factor is the ratio of the densities of  $\delta = 0$  in the posterior and prior.

# Generic default Bayesian test



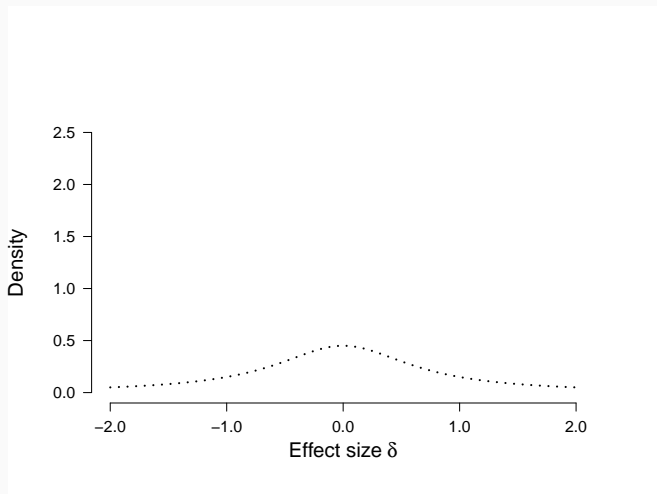
Observing data **reduced** our belief that  $\delta = 0$  by a factor of 10.52

# Generic default Bayesian test



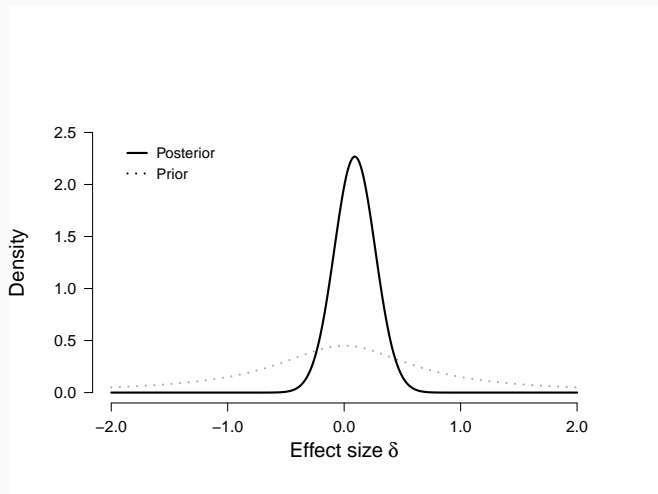


## Generic default Bayesian test



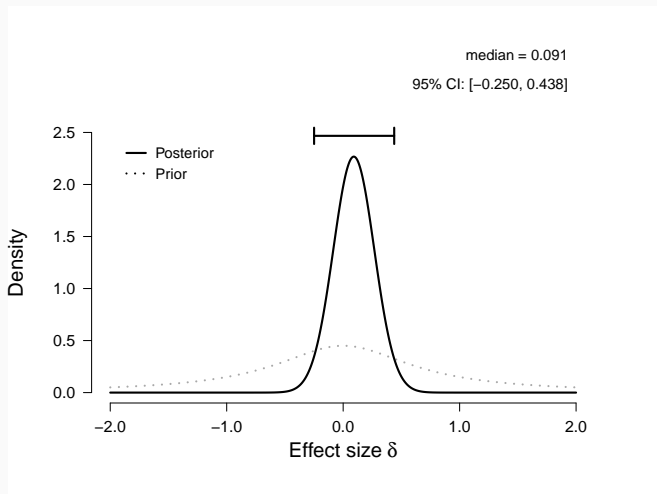
What happens if the null is supported instead?

# Generic default Bayesian test



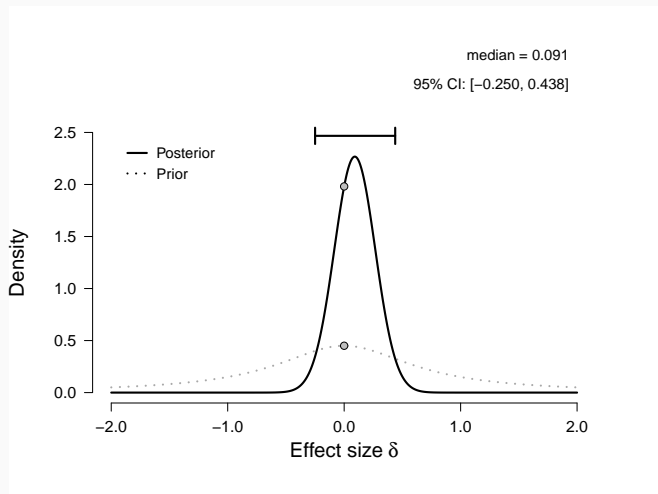
Observing data updates our prior to a **posterior**.

# Generic default Bayesian test



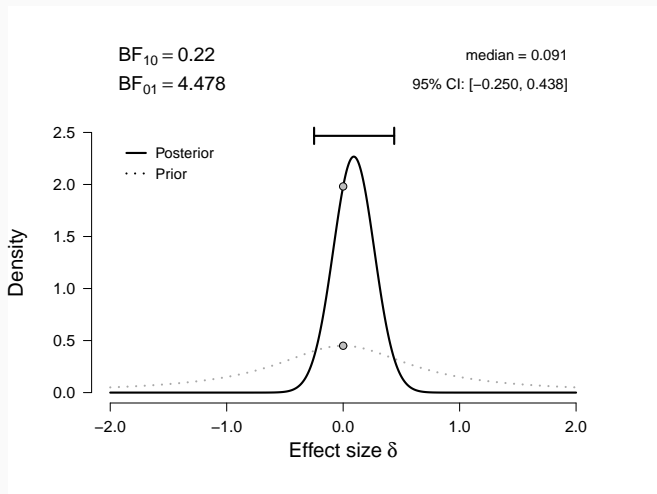
We can extract posterior **estimates** of  $\delta$

# Generic default Bayesian test



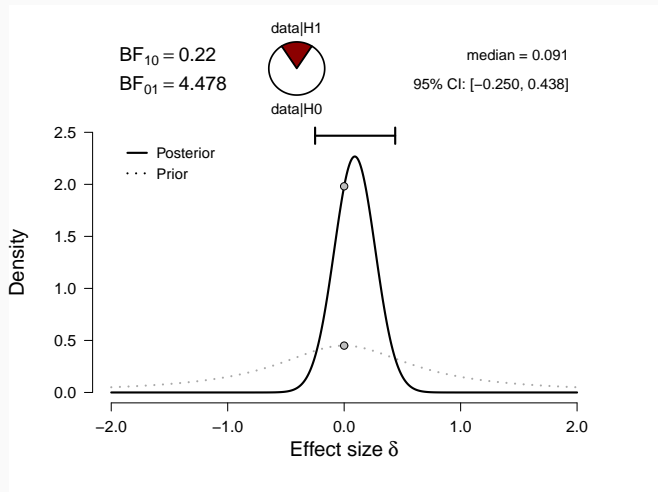
The Bayes factor is the ratio of the densities of  $\delta = 0$  in the posterior and prior.

# Generic default Bayesian test



Observing data **increased** our belief that  $\delta = 0$  by a factor of 4.478

# Generic default Bayesian test



## Questions?

Now let's work some examples together.

All datasets can be downloaded at  
<http://github.com/tomfaulkenberry/bayesAngeloState>





# Thank you!

- Thomas J. Faulkenberry
- Department of Psychological Sciences
- Tarleton State University
- `faulkenberry@tarleton.edu`
- Twitter: @tomfaulkenberry